

Message Text

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14

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 ORM-02 TRSE-00

AID-05 ACDA-10 OES-06 IGA-02 EB-07 OMB-01 HEW-06 /160 W

----- 104941

R 050350Z NOV 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0474

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS USUN 5029

VIENNA FOR UNRWA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SREF UNRWA, UNGA, XF

SUBJ: SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE CONCLUDES UNRWA DEBATE

REF: 4987

1. SUMMARY: GA SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (SPC) CONCLUDED DEBATE ON UNRWA ITEM NOV 4 WITH STATEMENTS BY 13 ADDITIONAL DELEGATIONS. SWEDEN INTRODUCED TRADITIONAL DRAFT RESOLUTION ON ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS DISPLACED IN 1967 AND IRAN INTRODUCED RESOLUTION EXTENDING WORKING GROUP ON FINANCING FOR ANOTHER YEAR. THESE RESOLUTIONS AND US PROPOSAL WILL BE VOTED ON NOV 5. TWO ADDITIONAL DRAFTS ON RETURN OF DISPLACED INHABITANTS TO OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND ON UNCLASSIFIED

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REMOVAL OF REFUGEES AND DESTRUCTION OF SHELTERS IN GAZA WERE

CIRCULATED BUT NO FORMALLY INTRODUCED AND WILL BE VOTED ON MONDAY, NOV 8. UNRWA PLEDGING CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR NOV 24. END SUMMARY.

2. THIRTEEN ADDITIONAL DELS MADE STATEMENTS ON UNRWA IN SPC NOV 4, CONCLUDING DEBATE ON THIS ITEM. STATEMENTS BY UGANDA, YUGOSLAVIA, CYPRUS, CUBA, MOROCCO, UAE, IRAN, ZAIRE, EGYPT, ROMANIA, TANZANIA, AFGHANISTAN, AND TURKEY COVERED MAIN THEMES OF PREVIOUS SPEAKERS. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW BELOW. SEVERAL ARABS, PLO, AND ISRAEL EXCHANGED REPLIES. SWEDEN INTRODUCED TRADITIONAL RESOLUTION ON ASSISTANCE TO PERSONS DISPLACED IN 1967 (A/SPC/31/L.3). IT IS COSPONSORED BY AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, COLOMBIA, DENMARK, FRG, FINLAND, GREECE, INDONESIA, ITALY, JAPAN, MALAYSIA, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PHILIPPINES, AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. DRAFT RESOLUTION REQUESTING WORKING GROUP ON UNRWA FINANCING TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS FOR FURTHER PERIOD OF ONE YEAR (A/SPC/31/L.4) WAS INTRODUCED BY IRAN. THIS RESOLUTION COSPONSORED BY AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, FINLAND, FRG, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, NEW ZEALAND, PAKISTAN, SUDAN, AND YUGOSLAVIA.

3. CHAIRMAN SAID TWO ABOVE RESOLUTIONS, PLUS US DRAFT RESOLUTION WOULD BE VOTED ON NOV 5. ALTHOUGH CIRCULATED, TWO OTHER DRAFT RESOLUTIONS WILL NOT BE FORMALLY INTRODUCED UNTIL NOV 5. CHAIRMAN STATED THAT THEY WOULD, THEREFORE, BE VOTED ON NOV 8. BOTH ARE SPONSORED BY AFGHANISTAN, CYPRUS, INDIA, AND PAKISTAN. FIRST (A/SPC/31/L.5) REAFFIRMS RIGHT OF DISPLACED INHABITANTS TO RETURN TO HOMES AND CAMPS IN TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL SINCE 1967; DEPLORES ISRAELI REFUSAL TO TAKE STEPS FOR RETURN; CALLS ON ISRAEL ONCE MORE TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS FOR RETURN OF DISPLACED INHABITANTS AND TO DESIST FROM MEASURES THAT OBSTRUCT RETURN, INCLUDING MEASURES AFFECTINF PHYSICAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES; AND REQUESTS SYG TO REPORT BY NEXT GA ON ISRAEL'S COMPLIANCE. SECOND RESOLUTION ON GAZA (A/SPC/31/L.6) CALLS ON ISRAEL ONCE MORE TO TAKE EFFECTIVE STEPS IMMEDIATELY FOR RETURN OF REGUGEES TO CAMPS FROM WHICH REMOVED IN GAZA STRIP AND TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SHELTERS FOR THEM, AND TO DESIST FROM FURTHER REMOVAL OF REFUGEES AND DESTRUCTION OF THEIR UNCLASSIFIED

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SHELTERS; AND REQUESTS SYG TO REPORT BY OPENING OF NEXT GA ON ISRAEL'S COMPLIANCE. (THESE TEXTS ARE IDENTICAL TO THOSE SENT DEPARTMENT IN USUN 4963.)

4. ALL SPEAKERS SUPPORTED UNRWA'S ACTIVITIES AS ESSENTIAL PENDING SETTLEMENT. MOST SAID REAL PROBLEM WAS POLITICAL AND THAT OF PALESTINIAN REFUGEES COULD BE SOLVED ONLY IN CONTEXT OF POLITICAL SOLUTION. UGANDA, CUBA, MOROCCO, UAE,

EGYPT, TANZANIA, AND AFGHANISTAN CITED PARTITION RESOLUTION AND SUBSEQUENT ISRAELI REFUSAL TO ABIDE BY UN RESOLUTIONS AS CAUSE OF REFUGEE PROBLEM. CUBA NAMED US AS SHARING RESPONSIBILITY BECAUSE OF ITS SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL, WHICH HE SAID US USED AS "SPEARHEAD" FOR MILITARIST POLICY IN ME. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE DELS, YUGOSLAVIA AND ROMANIA CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND RESTORATION OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS. ROMANIA ASKED FOR RENEWED GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE WITH PLO PARTICIPATION AND REPEATED ELEMENTS OF SOVIET PROPOSAL. HE ALSO URGED MORE IMPORTANT ROLE FOR UN AT GENEVA AND IN ALL OTHER ME PEACE EFFORTS. CYPRUS SUPPORTED PALESTINIAN RIGHTS AND SOLUTION BASED ON GA RESOLUTION 194(III) AND URGED SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR UNRWA. YUGOSLAVIA PLEDGED CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR UNRWA AND SAID ALL UN MEMBERS HAD DUTY TO SUPPORT AGENCY. WHILE DECRYING NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF PAST RESOLUTIONS ON REFUGEES, MOROCCO SUGGESTED GA SHOULD NOT ADOPT RESOLUTIONS POINTLESSLY IF UN NOT CAPABLE OF SECURING THEIR IMPLEMENTATION.

5. IRAN AND TURKEY URGED MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR UNRWA AND LATTER EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT DEBATE HAD BROUGHT FORTH NO NEW IDEAS ON WHO TO COPE WITH GROWING DIFFICULTIES FACED BY AGENCY. HE THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR GA TO CONSIDER ACCEPTING CTNTINGENT LIABILITY FOR SEPARATION BENEFITS OF UNRWA STAFF AND THAT "OTHER SUGGESTIONS" MADE DURING DEBATE MIGHT ALSO MERIT CONSIDERATION. ZAIRE CRITICIZED ISRAEL FOR ATTACKS ON REFUGEE CAMPS AND FOR REFUSAL TO RECOGNIZE RIGHT OF PALESTINIANS TO HOMELAND. HE SAID ZAIRE HAD NEVER ADVOCATED THAT ISRAEL CEASE TO EXIST; HOWEVER, IT GHUGHT ISRAEL SHOULD GRANT TO PALESTINIANS RIGHTS THAT IT HAD WON FOR ITSELF.

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6. EGYPT AND MOROCCO DEFENDED ARAB STATES'S SUPPORT FOR UNRWA ACCORDING TO WHAT THEY COULD AFFORD. EGYPT ALSO COMMENDED PLO "CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE" IN SUPPORT OF UNRWA. HE CRITICIZED ISRAEL'S CONTENTIONS OF PREVIOUS DAY ON ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND SITUATION IN GAZA IN PARTICULAR, TERMING ISRAELI STATEMENTS DISTORTIONS AND EXAGGERATIONS. ISRAEL HAMPERED UNRWA'S WORK, HE ARGUED. HE NOTED "STRIKING" COMPARISON BETWEEN AMOUNTS SPENT ON FIGTS AND LOANS FOR WEAPONS TO ISRAEL AND ON HELP FOR REFUGEES.

7. REPLIES TO ISRAELI STATEMENT OF NOV 3 WERE MADE BY PLO, JORDAN, AND SYRIA, FOLLOWED BY FURTHER REPLIES BY ISRAEL AND EGYPT. THEY BROKE NO NEW GROUND.

8. AFTER OUTLINING JOINT PLAN AS GIVEN ABOVE, CHAIRMAN
ANNOUNCED THAT UNRWA PLEDGING CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED FOR
10:30 AM, NOV 24.
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